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a. classification of subject matter IPC 7 H01L21/8247 H01L21/28 H01L29/788 H01L27/115 H01L21/336 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 H01L Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with Indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages 1-11 US 5 991 204 A (CHANG ET AL) X 23 November 1999 (1999-11-23) the whole document 1 - 11WO 00/51188 A1 (CHEN, CHIOU-FENG) Χ 31 August 2000 (2000-08-31) page 18, line 14 - page 22, line 5; figures 13A-13G 1 - 11DE 197 30 762 A1 (LG SEMICON CO., LTD., X CHEONGJU, KR) 2 July 1998 (1998-07-02) column 3, line 40 - column 5, line 22; figures 4A-4E 1-11 US 5 986 303 A (CHOI ET AL) Α 16 November 1999 (1999-11-16) the whole document -/--Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. *T* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed "A" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 09/02/2005 1 February 2005 **Authorized officer** Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016 Albrecht, C

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